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CLASSIFICATION

Approved For Release 2003/08/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R002000480010-0

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT 1. Soviet Equipment Leaving Ohrdruf  
2. New Gearshift on JS Tanks

DATE DISTR. 15 November 1948

NO. OF PAGES 1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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1. Soviet troops began evacuating the Ohrdruf Training Area on 1 October 1948. Subsequently the following rail shipments of equipment were noted:

2 October: Four JS-2, fifteen T-34/85, and eight armored reconnaissance cars [redacted] arrived on two trains at Weissenfels. Sent on to Halle, they were unloaded at the Halle/Saale freight station, 2-3 October, and taken to the former Luftwaffe signals school.

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2-3 October: Four SU-152 and eight SU-85 were unloaded at Ammendorf station and sent to the former AA barracks at Wörmlitz. These guns had been loaded at Ohrdruf on 1 October.

5 October: No additional trains were seen up to 5 October, but rolling stock was being directed to Ohrdruf, Eisenach, and Mechterstedt. Settelstedt.

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3. [redacted] men had been at Ohrdruf replacing gearshift transmissions on JS tanks with automatic "Kreis" gearshifts. Twenty-eight tanks had been converted; there were 200 more at Halle awaiting similar treatment. "Kreis" gearshifts are produced by Auto-Union in Chemnitz and present no difficulties since they are the same size as those currently used in the JS tank.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 410  
NO CHANGE in Class  
 DECLASSIFIED  
Class CHANGED TO: TS  
DDA MNGO 4 Apr 77  
Auth: DDA REG 77  
Date: 05/05/78 By: [redacted]

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